

January 17, 2006
Regular Session

Minutes

Members present

Brady Wooten- Chairman
Allen Sneed- Vice- Chairman
Leon Casstevens- Commissioner
Kim Clark Phillips- Commissioner
D.C. Swaim- Commissioner

Others Present

Cecil E. Wood- County Manager
Melinda Vestal-Clerk to the Board
James Graham-County Attorney

Chairman Wooten called the meeting to order. Commissioner Swaim had the invocation. Principal Jeff Wallace, Forbush High School, led the pledge of allegiance.

Public comments

Bill Garrett, Boonville, who is new to the community, addressed the Board concerning the leadership of Mr. Wood. He commented on Commissioner Phillips' push to appoint a Hispanic to the Board of Health. He questioned appointments to other county boards. He stated this is America and we do not need foreigners running our county. He read a job description for a County Manager. He commented that Yadkin County's tax rate is higher than 13 surrounding counties. He spoke of foreclosures and bankruptcies. He asked where are the grants for Yadkin County; other counties are getting them. He read a letter from Wal-Mart. Mr. Garrett stated if the county cannot manage our tax dollars, then we need a new County Manager.

Dianne Doub, East Bend, stated the tax rate could have been reduced if correct financial information had been given to the Board. She commented that all who pay taxes should be heard everyday, not just Election Day.

Charles Robert Wooten, Yadkinville, stated he enjoys coming to the meetings. He commented that Mr. Wood thought the county's image needed to be polished. He discussed issues in Land Records with John Bridgers, Building Inspection issues and Environmental Health issues. He stated Commissioner Sneed should not have been the one riding with the Specialist, should have been Mr. Wood. He spoke on the communication system issues, EMS and the animal shelter. He commented the money overspent on the shelter could have gone towards a domestic violence shelter for women and children. These are all leadership issues under the direction of Mr. Wood. Mr. Wooten stated the finance office cannot count money; too many mistakes. He stated the county's audits are not correct. He also commented the Chamber of Commerce needed to work on their image. The problems fall back on the County Manager and poor leadership.

Kim Russell, President of Humane Society, introduced herself and the officers of the Society. She commended Jerry Hutchens for all his hard work and willingness to work with the Society. The Society is willing to work with county. They would like to see the adoption of animals increase.

Peggy Boose, Boonville, discussed Mick Staton with Capitol Links and how he is not a grant writer but a lobbyist. She also discussed Tom Webb and his services. She addressed Commissioner Phillips regarding making the best decisions for the citizens of Yadkin County. She also told Commissioner Phillips to quit chastising Chairman Wooten for his conservativeness. She informed everyone that she does not give signals on how to vote to any Board member.

Keith Phillips, Board of Health Chairman, spoke on the appointment of a Hispanic to the Board of Health. He stated the law says the Board of Health is to be made of representation from the entire county. Yadkin County's population is 7% Hispanic. He stated it is unfortunate that Mr. Wood and other Commissioners do not respond to the accusations put forth tonight.

Minutes

Commissioner Phillips asked that "the three did not answer the question" be added to the closed session minutes.

***Commissioner Casstevens made the motion to approve the regular session minutes with corrections. Commissioner Sneed seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Tax Administration

***Commissioner Sneed made the motion to approve the tax refunds. Commissioner Phillips seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

	REFUNDS			
	DATE SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL			
	JANUARY 17, 2006			
			TOTAL	
			REFUND	
	NAME/REASON	YEAR	AMOUNT	
	CRAIG E BOOSE	2005	\$ 234.76	
	PO BOX 639			
	EAST BEND NC 27018			
	APP CORR HOMESITE VALUE AND ONLY			
	ONE DWELLING HERE. REINSTATED			
	FARM USE			
	BRENDA BLACKBURN	2005	\$ 50.67	
	212 WASHINGTON ST			
	YADKINVILLE NC 27055			
	APP CORR SQ FTG OF HOUSE			
	FEARRINGTON LAND DEVELOP. LLC	2005	\$ 113.87	
	1425 LEWISVILLE-VIENNA RD			
	PFAFFTOWN NC 27040			
	APPR CORR LOT VALUES			
	TIM JOHNSON	2003-2004	\$ 115.55	
	4200 UNION HILL RD			
	EAST BEND NC 27018			
	CORR YEAR OF MH			
	TOTAL		\$ 514.85	
	PREPARED BY:			
	VERIFIED BY:			

Animal Control- dangerous and vicious dogs

***Commissioner Swaim made the motion to approve the dangerous and vicious dogs ordinance to be effective February 1st. Commissioner Sneed seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Regulation of Dangerous and Vicious Dogs; security and restraint requirements.

No person shall own, keep, or harbor a dangerous, or a vicious dog, as herein defined, except in compliance with the following and other provisions of this ordinance:

- I. Dangerous dogs and potentially dangerous dogs. Dangerous dogs that are determined to be potentially dangerous as herein provided shall be subject to the following regulations.
 - a. While on the real property of the person owning, keeping, or harboring it, a dangerous dog shall be kept, secured and restrained only in one of the following ways.
 - i. In a building with doors, windows, and other exits securely fastened shut under the supervision and control of a responsible adult person capable of such supervision and control, or if not under such supervision and control, then securely tethered inside such building by a chain capable of restraining the dog.
 - ii. Securely tethered in a locked enclosure which has secure sides, top and bottom and is constructed out of materials and in a manner which will preclude escape by the dog and prevent entry by small children.
 - iii. While outside the building or enclosure described above, securely leashed with a chain no longer than four (4) feet in length in the hands of, and under the control of a responsible adult person capable of such control and muzzled by a muzzling device sufficient to prevent such dog from biting persons or other animals.
 - b. No persons owning, keeping, or harboring a dangerous dog shall take or remove such a dog from the real property of such person except to bring such dog to a veterinarian or to the county animal pound, to remove such dog permanently from the territorial jurisdiction of Yadkin County, or to provide bonafide exercise necessary for the continued good health of the animal. In the event of such taking of removal, such dog shall be securely enclosed as set forth above for dogs being maintained outside buildings.

Jail- budget amendment

Dept: JAIL

Description	Account Number	Original Budget	Increase/(Decrease)	Amended Budget
Inmate Medical Supplies	1054320-52040	3,500.00	57,405.00	60,905.00
Approp. Fund Balance	1044000-49000	490,063.00	57,405.00	547,468.00

***Commissioner Phillips made the motion to approve the budget amendment for the jail. Commissioner Swaim seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Commissioner Sneed asked if the county could recoup any of this money from the county which had the outstanding warrant for the prisoner.

Attorney Graham stated he would check.

Water-Hwy 601 Project

Mr. Wood presented a proposal for additional erosion costs for the Hwy 601 Water Project. The money would come from contingency.

The Board discussed the costs.

***Commissioner Sneed made the motion to approve the proposal for additional erosion costs for the Hwy 601 Project. Commissioner Phillips seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Administration- David Long, Consultant

Mr. Wood introduced David Long, an Independent Consultant.

Mr. Long stated he worked with numerous boards helping them to work together. He takes ideas and finds common threads- financing, community

support, etc., and presents a written report with a step by step guideline. The plan will point the Board in a positive direction.

Chairman Wooten called for a break.

***Commissioner Phillips made the motion to approve the one-day retreat at a cost of \$1,000 with David Long on February 1st from 9:00-3:00 in the Commissioners' room. Commissioner Swaim seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Commissioner comments

Commissioner Phillips informed the Board of a workshop "Working for Results". She thought this would be beneficial for all Board members, Clerk and the County Manager.

***Commissioner Phillips made the motion to support the adoption of the resolution to ban all tobacco products from school campuses as approved by the Board of Health. Chairman Wooten seconded.**

Commissioner Casstevens stated this decision should be made by the Board of Education.

Commissioner Phillips stated the motion is to support the decision of the Board of Health to adopt the resolution.

Chairman Wooten read the following statement: There are some important issues involved in the resolution that need to be addressed by the school board that will impact the children and citizens of Yadkin County. Health issues that the Commissioners can do nothing about except pass this resolution on to the school board and encourage them to make the best decisions for Yadkin County on the health related issues.

Commissioner Phillips stated it is the responsibility of county leaders to provide leadership and set examples.

Commissioner Swaim stated there are other products detrimental to the health of our citizens and we should be concerned with all products.

Mike Reavis, Director, Health Department, stated this resolution would make the schools tobacco free. Currently faculty and visitors smoke on campus. He stated that 60% of the schools in our state have gone smoke-free. The Board of Health is asking for the support of the Commissioners to encourage the Board of Education to make the schools tobacco-free.

Commissioner Sneed stated young children should not smoke, but adults should be allowed to make their own decisions. He read some statistics about other products students have tried. He stated there is too much emphasizes on just smoking when there are other products more serious than smoking that can kill you.

Mr. Reavis agreed there are bad drugs out there, but they are not legal and being allowed on campus.

Commissioner Sneed stated Yadkin County has existed on tobacco. He sees this as violating people's rights.

Chairman Wooten stated it is the Board of Education's decision to adopt the entire resolution, certain parts or none of it

Commissioner Casstevens stated he was approached by several citizens regarding the resolution. They said they want support the Sport Clubs if this is adopted. He does not support the resolution.

The Board voted 3-2. Commissioners Sneed and Casstevens opposed.

Commissioner Phillips inquired about the national meeting in Washington.

Chairman Wooten stated he would be attending.

Commissioner Phillips asked if the county should proceed with the application for sewer.

Mr. Wood stated he could start the process, but with limited staff and other projects it could cause delays with other projects, but he would do whatever the Board directs.

Chairman Wooten stated he would like 100% emphasis on water issues; he does not want anything to hinder this project.

Commissioner Phillips stated that is fine with her, but she would like to find out what we need so we can be prepared when the time comes.

Commissioner Casstevens inquired about the use of the old prison. Can this be used as a jail?

Mr. Wood stated he contacted the state a while back and they had chosen to hold on to the property. If we could use the old prison, it would have to be brought up to federal/state guidelines because it has been closed for longer than a year.

Commissioner Sneed stated this could be something the committee could work on.

Commissioner Sneed stated he would like to form a committee to develop a plan for the jail.

Mr. Wood stated the groups who are looking at the courthouse issues have been notified of a jail study. He suggested the committee should consist of those familiar with the jail/court system; Sheriff, Court Officials, Probation Office, the District Attorney, citizens at large, a Judge, and a Lawyer.

***Commissioner Sneed made the motion to set up a committee to look at the needs for the jail per the guidelines of appointees- Sheriff, Court Officials, Probation Office, District Attorney, Citizen at large, Judge and Lawyer. Commissioner Phillips seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Commissioner Wooten stated after talking with the Board of Elections and discussing the old voting machines, does the Board want to advertise and sell the machines?

Commissioner Wooten asked Mr. Wood to check with the Board of Elections regarding the voting machines and place it on the agenda for the next meeting.

Chairman Wooten discussed an article regarding a Sewer Authority Board with Jonesville, Elkin and Rhonda. He suggested this Board approach our municipalities regarding an authority. He asked Mr. Wood to set up a meeting.

Commissioner Swaim stated previous Boards tried to establish a water authority with the towns, but they were very territorial. We were told we could qualify for more funds if, we pooled our resources with the towns.

Chairman Wooten stated he would like to make an effort; give it another try.

Commissioner Sneed discussed 5-D and other water projects. He asked if the matched funds had to be used for 5-D. He asked about switching priorities; a county water system as top priority and 5-D being the second.

Mr. Wood stated there could be some risk in changing priorities. This could cause a decrease in our creditability, but it could be done. We need to act quickly if this is what the Board wishes to do.

Chairman Wooten stated he spoke with a Congressional Representative and they are 99% sure we will get 5-D funding.

The Board discussed setting up meetings with the towns.

Chairman Wooten asked if Mr. Wood had any information on an employees' reward program.

Mr. Wood stated he is checking with other counties.

Chairman Wooten discussed health proposals for the county. He asked when would the information be mailed? He suggested mailing the information to the various agents/agencies by the first of March.

Manager comments

Mr. Wood stated he received a request from Solid Waste to revise The Plan. The committee suggested two Commissioners serve on the committee. The meeting is meet February 8th at 10:00 a.m. Commissioners Sneed and Wooten agreed to serve.

***Commissioner Swaim made the motion to allow the Chairman and the County Manager to attend the national meeting in Washington. Commissioner Phillips seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Mr. Wood asked the Board to set a public hearing for the proposed changes to the ordinance text.

***Commissioner Swaim made the motion to set the public hearing for February 20th at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Phillips seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Mr. Wood presented some items from the Sheriff's office to declare surplus: four pro copper consoles, three Maratrac radios, three light bars, three siren control heads, three siren speakers. These would be sold on Govdeals.com.

***Commissioner Phillips made the motion to declare the items surplus and sell them on Govdeals.com. Commissioner Sneed seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Commissioner Sneed stated with gas prices fluctuating up and down, ***he made the motion to use the money from the items sold on GovDeals for gas money. See altered motion below.**

The Board discussed the money and how it should be put in the Sheriff's budget and he spend it as needed.

Mr. Wood stated he spoke with the Sheriff about the gas line item and how it is going to be in trouble with the current gas prices.

Commissioner Phillips stated she would support the motion if it allowed the Sheriff to spend the money as needed.

Chairman Wooten reminded the Board that an additional \$162,000 was added to the Sheriff's budget.

Commissioner Sneed changed the motion to allow the Sheriff to spend the money as needed. Commissioner Phillips seconded. The Board voted 3-2. Commissioners Wooten and Casstevens opposed.

Mr. Wood informed the Board of a training session regarding mental health in Raleigh on February 8th.

The Board discussed the Closed Session minutes.

***Commissioner Swaim made the motion to approve the Closed Session minutes with the changes. Commissioner Phillips seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Adjournment

***Commissioner Sneed made the motion to adjourn. Commissioner Swaim seconded. The Board voted 5-0.**

Melinda Vestal, Clerk to the Board